

# County of Santa Clara

## Public Health Department

3003 Moorpark Avenue  
San Jose, California 95128



### PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

June 25, 2003

In order to provide information regarding Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) cases and other public health issues, the Santa Clara County Public Health Department Information Office will issue Public Health Updates to notify you of recent developments. The following reflects the status of suspect SARS cases in Santa Clara County.

#### SARS

Santa Clara County Public Health Department officials have reported the following cases to the California Department of Health Services (CDHS) during the month of June. This first additional case, reported on June 10<sup>th</sup>, is a 3 year-old male who moved to Santa Clara County from Toronto, Canada. He was almost immediately diagnosed with influenza. The second additional case, reported to the state on June 18<sup>th</sup>, is a 47 year-old male who traveled from China. He has been diagnosed with influenza. The third additional case, reported to the CDHS on June 20, is a 37 year-old resident of Japan who traveled here from mainland China. He has been reported as a suspect case of SARS and is currently hospitalized and in good condition.

The follow reflects the numbers of cases reported from Santa Clara County:

Total number of reported suspect SARS cases	18
Number of suspect cases with an alternative diagnoses	8
Current number on record with the CDHS	10
Probable SARS cases	6
(Two cases have tested positive for the coronavirus)	
Suspect SARS cases	4

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has updated the United States (U.S.) definition of SARS. U.S. cases are now classified as either suspect or probable as outlined by the following:

- Suspect Case: Respiratory illness of unknown etiology with onset since February 1, 2003 and the following criteria;
  - Travel within 10 days of onset of symptoms to an area\* with documented or suspected community transmission of SARS, **OR** close contact within 10 days of onset of symptoms with a person known to be a suspect or probable SARS case, **AND**
  - Measured temperature greater than 100.4 degrees F (greater than 38 degrees C), **AND**
  - One or more clinical findings of respiratory illness (e.g. cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, hypoxia, or radiographic findings of either pneumonia or acute respiratory distress syndrome)
- Probable Case: A suspect case with one of the following:
  - Radiographic evidence of pneumonia or acute respiratory distress syndrome, **OR**
  - Autopsy findings consistent with respiratory distress syndrome without an identifiable cause

\*Areas with documented or suspected community transmission of SARS: People's Republic of China (mainland China and Hong Kong); Hanoi, Vietnam; Singapore; and Toronto, Canada.

CDC Travel Alerts & Advisories are no longer in effect for Singapore or Vietnam. CDC Travel Alert, which does not include a recommendation against nonessential travel but does asks travelers to take precautions when traveling, is in effect for Mainland China, Hong Kong and Toronto, Canada. CDC Travel Advisory, which recommends travelers postpone all but essential travel, still exists for Beijing, China and Taiwan.

**Contact Information:** Joy Alexiou at 408.885.4164 or Teresa Chagoya at 408.423.0717.

SARS information has been posted to the Public Health Department Web site: [www.sccphd.org](http://www.sccphd.org). The Public Health Information Line at 885.3980 is available to answer questions from Santa Clara County residents during regular business hours.